PENISTONE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1908

Mr. James A. Ross, M.B., C.M.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Penistone:
J. H. Wood, The Don Press,
1909.

Penistone Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1908.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PENISTONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for 1908, at the same time expressing my regret that it has been so long delayed.

DEATH RATE.

It is satisfactory to be able to note that there has been a further decrease in the death rate for the year. In 1907 the rate was 13.9 per thousand, while for the past year it was 10.5. The rate has been lower on only two occasions within the past ten years, namely, 10.3 in 1905 and 9 in 1903.

The actual number of deaths occurring within the district was 37, but 2 deaths of residents occurred outside the district, one in a West Riding Lunatic Asylum and one in Penistone Union Workhouse. These have been included in the total on which the rate is calculated. Taking the population estimated to the middle of 1908 as 3,515, this gives a death rate of 10.5 per 1000.

The rate for England and Wales for 1908 was 14.7 per 1000.

The total number of deaths registered was 39, of which 20 took place under 5 years of age. Of these, 17 occurred under one year—5 of them within the first week of life. Of the total deaths, 7 were due to Whooping Cough, all under 5 years of age. Pulmonary Tuberculosis and other tuberculous diseases were responsible for 4, and other diseases of the respiratory organs for 4 deaths. There were 2 fatal cases of Cancer, 4 deaths owing to Premature Birth, and one from Injury at Birth, one death from Diarrhœa in an infant, one from Suicide, and 13 deaths from causes not included in the above list.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There has unforunately been a still further rise in the infant mortality rate. In 1907 the rate was 116 per thousand births registered. During 1908 there were 16 deaths under one year, which gives an infant death rate of 135. This is in excess of the rate for England and Wales, namely, 121 per thousand, and has not been so high since 1902. The average for the past ten years is 107.3.

In connection with this important matter, I would suggest that the appointment of health visitors would probably prove a great boon, and result in the saving of many infant lives. Some of these are undoubtedly lost from ignorance of the simplest rules to be observed when tending a baby, in the matter of feeding, clothing, etc. Other infants certainly die as a direct result of the gross carelessness and neglect on the part of the parents. A little practical instruction, and useful hints given in a nice way, might do a great deal of good. Anyhow, I think the suggestion is worthy of a trial.

Of the deaths under one year, 5 were due to Whooping Cough, one to Diarrhœa, 5 to Premature Birth or Injury at Birth, one to Congenital Defect, one to Tuberculosis, and 3 to other causes.

Four Inquests were held and two post-mortem examinations made. The causes of death were: one due to Heart Failure, one

to Cancer (P.M.), one suicide on the railway, and one to Kidney Disease and Heart Failure.

Two deaths were those of illegitimate children. There were no uncertified deaths.

BIRTH RATE.

As a set-off against the increased infantile mortality rate, there was a considerable increase in the birth rate. There were 118 births, including 2 illegitimate, giving a rate of 33 per thousand, higher than it has been since 1901. The average for the past ten years was 29.8, and the average for England and Wales for 1908 was 26.5.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

I have great pleasure in reporting that the district has continued to be remarkably free from any epidemic, or any severe outbreak of ailments affecting schools. In 1907 there were only 16 cases of zymotic disease notified, and for 1908 15 cases. The cases notified during 1908 comprise Diphtheria 9 cases, Erysipelas 2 cases, 1 each of Scarlet Fever and Enteric Fever, and 2 of Puerperal Fever. These cases ranged from January to November, so that at no time was there anything approaching an epidemic, nor any necessity for school closure.

A number of specimens were sent to the Bacteriological Laboratory at Wakefield for examination in cases of suspected Diphtheria, Tuberculosis, and Enteric Fever. The reports on these specimens were of very great value in determining the precise nature of the diseases.

WATER SUPPLY.

The quantity of water during the year was ample, and the supply was quite continuous. At no time was it found necessary to stop it, although the rainfall for 1908 was only 31.91 inches, as compared with 33.54 inches for 1907. There has still been at intervals the old trouble of discoloration of the water, but fewer complaints have been made as regards this than in previous years.

With regard to Cubley, the supply of water to the houses is still wanting. A new trough has been erected on the roadside between Cubley and Racecommom, with a good supply of water. Unfortunately the surface water gets into the channel above the trough, bringing with it sewage, soapsuds, etc., from Cliff House, thus contaminating the supply for either drinking purposes or the watering of cattle.

The amount of water registered as passing through the meter at Thurlstone averaged about 335,000 gallons per day.

The amount recorded by the meter as supplied to Darton averaged about 85,000 gallons per day.

The Great Central Railway have received from the Thurlstone reservoir about 75,000 gallons per day, in addition to 20,000 gallons supplied to the railway tank direct from Racecommon. Previously the amount available from this source was from 40,000 to 50,000 gallons per day, but since certain borings have been made in the neighbourhood of New Lodge, the supply from Racecommon has been reduced by about half. New Cross produces about 100,000 gallons per day, which are pumped into the reservoir.

Mossley Farm. What promises to be a very useful additional supply is now under construction at Mossley. A constant supply of good water appears to be available even after a prolonged period of dry weather.

SEWERAGE.

At the Outfall Works, the trickling filters and the filter beds have been working very well, except during the unusually heavy snow-storms and when the bearings of the trickling filters became clogged and had to be cleaned. No complaint as to any nuisance arising from the settling tanks has been received, and the effluent is clear and free from offensive smell.

At Bridge End the great part of the sewerage has been completed. Some property belonging to Mr. Amos Green is still unfinished as to its drainage.

At Don Street, also at Knowle Street, recently constructed roads, the sewage is allowed to run on to the land.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTION.

In accordance with instructions from the Council, a systematic house-to-house inspection was commenced in the autumn, and since then most of the district has been inspected along with the Sanitary Inspector.

The points specially noted related principally to defective fall pipes, sink waste pipes, and leaking privy middens. As regards the last-mentioned nuisance, this is entirely caused by the tenants throwing slops and other liquids into these receptacles. This is strictly against the byelaws, and the practice must be stopped. If a first warning is not sufficient, then other steps ought to be taken to abate the nuisance.

To a large extent the causes of complaint on these visits have been remedied.

It is intended that these monthly sectional inspections shall in future be carried out as regularly as possible.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

The Slaughter-house of Mrs. Edwin Wood is lofty, well-lighted, clean, and sanitary in every particular. That occupied by Mr. A. Robinson is also lofty, well-lighted, and generally in good order.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Under this Act, 13 samples of various articles were taken during 1908. It was not found necessary to institute any legal proceedings, although in one instance a milk seller received a caution.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

The number of Workshops registered in the district is 7, comprising 1 Bakeshop, 3 Bootmakers, and 3 non-textile factories.

Of the non-textile factories, Mr. J. H. Wood's Printing Works continue to meet all the requirements of the Act as to ventilation, lighting, air space, protection of machinery, and the posting of the necessary notices.

In the Rugmaking factory of Messrs. Whiteley Bros. all the requirements of the Act are complied with : the lighting, ventilation, and air space are ample ; and the sanitary arrangements are adequate The other non-textile factory is that of Messrs. Dobson and Nall, Mineral Water Box Makers. Here also the requirements of the Act are fully met in every respect, and every precaution is taken as to the protection of the numerous machines.

The Bootmaking establishments of Mr. B. T. Hinchliffe, Bridge Street ; Messrs. Hudson & Birks, of Market Street ; and Mr. Senior, of Spring Vale, are all quite satisfactory.

The Bakeshop of Misses A. & H. Wood, of Market Street, is kept in excellent order, and is up-to-date in every respect.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES A. ROSS, M.B., C.M.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Penistone,

June, 1909.

TABLE C, 1908.

Penistone Urban Sanitary District.

WATER SUPPLY—

Any development during 1908—The borings at Mossley promise to yield a useful additional supply of good water.

Developments still needed—The supply has been sufficient during the year.

Has public supply been continuous—Yes.

Any complaint as to action on lead—No.

Any samples tested for lead during 1908—No.

SEWERAGE—

Developments during 1908—Two storm overflows, and properties drained and connected with the main sewer at Bridge End.

Developments still needed—Drainage of Church Hill and Shrewsbury Road.

Any complaints as to offensive Manholes—Several.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL—

Any complaint as to outfall works—No.

SCAVENGING—

Performed by Sanitary Staff.

Annual Cost—£150.

Any inadequacy and where ?—

BYE-LAWS—

Any adopted or sanctioned during 1908?—No.

ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Any steps taken for the consideration, adoption, or application of :—

(*a*) Notification of Births Act, 1907—Nil.

(*b*) Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907—Nil. What Sections—Nil.

(*c*) Other Adoptive Acts—Nil.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.—

Common Lodging Houses—None ; inspections made, ; general condition,

Canal Boats—0

Slaughter Houses—No. on register, 2 ; inpections made, 36 ; general condition—Very good.

Cowsheds—No. in District, 5 ; No. on register, 5 ; inspections made, 20 ; general condition—Fairly satisfactory.

Offensive Trades—Number on register, ; inspections made, general condition, Nature—

Any nuisance from fish-frying—None complained of.

Cowsheds—

Any special inspection made during 1908—No.

Any action taken by outside Authorities, *e.g.*, under 'Milk Clauses' concerning milk supplied from this district ?—No.

Infectious Disease—

Any suspected spread by rats, dogs, cats, fowls, flies or fleas—No.

How is infected clothing dealt with—Exposure to sulphur fumes. Boiling. No public disinfector.

Isolation Hospital—

Any observation on adequacy or efficiency—Adequate and efficient.

Schools—

Any ailment or contagious disease associated particularly with school life during 1908 ?—No.

Midwives Act, 1902—

Are there any uncertified women attending confinements without a doctor—No.

Dwellings—

Number of houses built during 1908—15.

General character—Cottage.

Do the new houses accord with Bye-Laws ?—Yes.

Who sees plans ?—The Council.

Any occupied houses unfit for habitation ?—No.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses ?—No.

Any action taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts—No.

Is house-to-house inspection systematically made ?—Yes.

Are records kept ?—Yes.

INFANTILE MORTALITY—

What organised effort to control it ?—

Do you recommend appointment of Health Visitors—Yes.

PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

Any system of notification ?—Voluntary system to be adopted.

Any Sanitary Inspection of Patients' Houses ?—Yes.

Any Disinfection of ditto—Yes.

Any Distribution of Advice ?—Handbills.

Any Action *re* Spitting ?—Nil.

Any Disinfection of public rooms, vehicles, etc. ?—Schools and Police Station.

NUISANCES—

Total number of Nuisances in hand at close of 1907—7. At close of 1908—5. Reported during 1908—36. Abated during 1908—38.

Total No. of Legal Notices served for Abatement of Nuisances during 1908—0.

Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—Nil.

Number of Sink Wastes Disconnected during 1908—6.

Number of Sink Wastes Trapped during 1908—6.

Number of Closets newly Constructed during 1908—15. Kinds—Earth closet.

Number of Closets Reconstructed during 1908—0. Kinds—

No. of House-drains tested—0. What Method adopted—Nil.

METEOROLOGY—

Mean Temperature for year 1908—No record. Rainfall—31·91.

WHAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN IN REGARD TO THE FOLLOWING MATTERS

Seizure of Unsound Food—None. Prosecutions—None.

Samples under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts—13. Prosecutions—One milk-seller cautioned.

No. of Smoke observations taken.—None. Legal Notices—None. Summonses—None.

No of Allotments provided under the Acts or otherwise during 1908—None.

BIRTHS during 1908—Males, 65 ; Females, 53 ; Total, 118.

Number illegitimate included in the above—2

Number of Still Births (not included)—0

DEATHS DURING 1908—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, Total actually registered in the district, without any correction—37.

(2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated—Males 28, Females 11, Total 39.

Number uncertified, included in the above—None.

Sanitary Requirements of District, and Suggestions of Medical Officer of Health—

Completion of the drainage of Bridge End.

Attention to the sewage from Don Street and Knowles Street.

TABLE I.

FOR WHOLE DISTRICT.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births		Deaths under One Year of age.		Deaths at all ages. Total.		Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Numb'r	Rate*	Numb'r	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Numb'r	Rate*				Numb'r	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1898	2794	85	30·4	10	48·0	48	17·5				48	17·5
1899	2829	88	31·1	11	125·0	46	16·6				46	16 6
1900	2864	86	30·0	13	151·0	33	11·1				33	11·1
1901	3082	103	33·0	7	67·9	49	15·8				51	15·8
1902	3142	80	25·4	14	174·0	43	13·7			4	47	14.9
1903	3200	102	31·8	9	88·2	29	9·0			1	30	9·6
1904	3261	94	29·1	10	106 0	38	11·6			3	27	12·5
1905	3388	102	30 0	11	107·8	35	10·3			10	45	13·2
1906	3384	110	32·5	10	90·0	42	12·2			8	50	14.8
1907	3497	86	25·0	10	116·0	48	13 9				48	13·9
Averages for years 1898—1907		93·6	29·8	10·5	107·3	41	13·1				42 5	13 9
1908	3515	118	33·0	16	135·0	37	10·5			2	39	11·0

* Rates calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 1134.

Total Population at all ages ..... 3071 } At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses .. .. 589 }
Average number of persons per house ..... 5·2 }

1—Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—Nil.

2—Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—Penistone Union Workhouse, Thurlstone; Isolation Hospital, Hoyland Moor, Hoylandswaine; Royal Infirmary, Sheffield; West Riding Lunatic Asylums.

3—Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District—Nil.

Is the Workhouse within the District ?—No.

TABLE II.

Names of Localities.	PENISTONE (Urban)			
Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
	a	*b*	*c.*	*d.*
1898	2794	85	48	10
1899	2829	83	46	11
1900	2864	86	33	13
1901	3082	103	49	7
1902	3142	80	43	14
1903	3200	102	30	9
1904	3259	94	41	10
1905	3388	102	35	11
1906	3384	110	42	10
1907	3450	86	48	10
Averages of Years 1898 to 1907.		93·1	41·5	10·5
1908	3515	118	39	16

TABLE III.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE notified during the Year 1908.

Notifiable Disease	Cases Notified in Whole District.							Cases Removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages.—Years.						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.
Cholera	..	..	...	...	...	..	...	...
Diphtheria / Membranous Croup	9	...	3	6	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Scarlet Fever	1	..	..	1	...	...	...	..
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	..	...	...	...	1	...	...
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Continued Fever	...	...	..	...	...	...	..	...
Puerperal Fever	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Plague	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	15	...	3	7	2	3	...	...

Isolation Hospital.—Stanhope Isolation Hospital, Hoyland Moor.
Total available beds, 18. No. of diseases that can be concurrently treated, 3.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1908.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in all Districts at subjoined Ages							Deaths in Public Institutions.
	All Ages	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	7	5	2	..	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	...	..	...	...	...	...	..	...
Diarrhœa	1	1	...	...	...	.	...	...
Phthisis	2	...	...	..	...	2	...	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	2	...	...	..	...	2	...	..
Bronchitis	1	...	...	...	...	1	..	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	..	...	..	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	3	2	...	...	...	1	...	.
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases&AcdntsofParturition	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	..
Heart Diseases	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	..
Suicides	1	...	...	...	..	1	...	...
All other causes	13	3	...	...	...	4	6	...
All causes	39	17	3	...	...	13	6	...

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	6-7 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year
Common Infectious Diseases													
Whooping Cough						2	2	1					5
Diarrhœal Diseases—													
Diarrhœa, all forms ...									1				1
Wasting Diseases—													
Premature Birth	4				4								4
Want of Breast-milk ...													
Congenital Defects... ...			1		1								1
Injury at Birth	1				1								1
Tuberculous Disease—													
Tuberculous Peritonitis ...													
Other Tuberculous Diseases								1					1
Rickets													
Convulsions													
Bronchitis													
Other Causes						2		1					3
All Causes { Certified / Uncertified }	5		1		6	4	2	3	1				16

Population estimated to middle of 1908, 3515.

Births in the year—legitimate 116 ; illegitimate 2 ; Total, 118.

Deaths in the year of legitimate infants 15 ; illegitimate infants 1 ; Total 16.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages 39.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1908,
for the

URBAN DISTRICT OF PENISTONE,

On the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,
In connection with

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces & Homework

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories ... ... (Including Factory Laundries)	3		
Workshops ... ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	3		
Workplaces	1		
Homeworkers' Premises			
Total	7		

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Nil.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year :—

A. & H. Wood,	Bakeshop	1
Hudson and Birks John Senior B. T. Hinchliffe	Bootmakers	3
J. H. Wood, Printer Whiteley Bros., Rugmakers Dobson and Nall, Boxmakers	Non-Textile Factories	3
	Total number of workshops on Register ...	7